
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8035

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Hargrove, Snyder, Benton, T. Sheldon, Oke, Deccio, Winsley, Long, Horn, Hochstatter, Stevens, Swecker, Finkbeiner, Carlson, Roach, Johnson, Zarelli, Hale, Honeyford, Hewitt, Morton, Sheahan, Rossi, Rasmussen, Gardner, Spanel, McAuliffe, Fraser, West, Franklin and Haugen

HELD ON FIRST READING 01/25/2002.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM
5 J. LENNOX, JR., SUPERINTENDENT, UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY, WEST
6 POINT:

7 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
8 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
9 represent and petition as follows:

10 WHEREAS, The United States Military Academy today celebrates 200
11 years of providing leaders of character for our Army and a lifetime of
12 selfless service to the Nation; and

13 WHEREAS, On March 16, 1802, President Thomas Jefferson signed into
14 law a bill of the United States Congress authorizing the establishment
15 of "a military academy to be located at West Point in the State of New
16 York;" and

17 WHEREAS, West Point was originally created as an academic
18 institution devoted to the arts and sciences of warfare, and later
19 emphasizing engineering to serve the needs of the Nation and to
20 eliminate the country's reliance on foreign engineers and artillerists;
21 and

1 WHEREAS, Isaac I. Stevens, the first graduate of West Point's Class
2 of 1839, served as the first Governor of the Territory of Washington,
3 and organized and led the Northern Railway Survey that paved the way
4 for the transcontinental railroads to Washington; and

5 WHEREAS, United States Military Academy graduates were responsible
6 for the construction of many of the Nation's initial railway lines,
7 bridges, harbors and roads, and surveys and mapmaking that were vital
8 to the infrastructure development of our great Country and its State of
9 Washington; and

10 WHEREAS, United States Military Academy led Army forces into the
11 wilderness area that became the Territory and State of Washington,
12 providing protection and development services until the civil authority
13 was able to assume these functions; and

14 WHEREAS, West Point graduates have distinguished themselves in
15 countless ways, from Olympic glory to receiving the Heisman Trophy,
16 from receiving scores of Rhodes Scholarships to serving as some of the
17 Nation's pioneering astronauts; and

18 WHEREAS, The United States Military Academy is preparing for its
19 third century of service to our Nation - a future in which fighting and
20 winning our Nation's wars remains the Army's primary focus; and

21 WHEREAS, The United States Military Academy must also prepare
22 officers for peacekeeping duties as part of an ever complex world; and

23 WHEREAS, The United States Military Academy remains today an
24 energetic, vibrant institution that attracts some of the Nation's best
25 and brightest young men and women from throughout the Country and its
26 State of Washington who, in the next two hundred years of service to
27 this Nation, will face challenges different from those that have gone
28 before them to make up the storied Long Gray Line; and

29 WHEREAS, The United States Military Academy continues its lasting
30 commitment to its motto of Duty, Honor, Country;

31 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that the
32 President of the United States and the Congress join with the state of
33 Washington and other states in honoring the 200th Anniversary of the
34 United States Military Academy at West Point in recognizing that the
35 United States Military Academy is a living testament to the
36 accomplishments of the United States throughout its history, and in
37 recognizing West Point and its graduates as they move forward into the
38 Academy's third century of service to the Nation.

1 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
2 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
3 States, Lieutenant General William J. Lennox, Jr., Superintendent,
4 United States Military Academy, West Point, the President of the United
5 States Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each
6 member of Congress from the State of Washington.

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